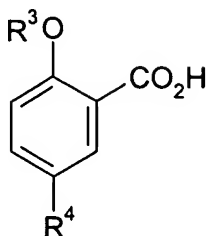


Claims

1-21 (Canceled)

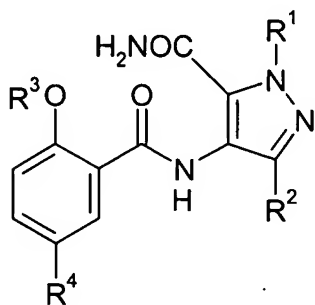
22. (new) A compound of formula (XI)



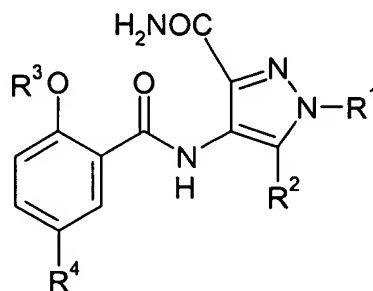
(XI)

wherein R^3 is C_1 to C_6 alkyl optionally substituted with C_1 - C_4 alkoxy;
 R^4 is $\text{SO}_2\text{NR}^7\text{R}^8$;
 R^7 and R^8 , together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form a 4- R^{10} -piperazinyl group; and
 R^{10} is H or C_1 to C_4 alkyl optionally substituted with OH, C_1 to C_4 alkoxy or CONH_2 ;
with the proviso that when R^3 is ethyl, R^4 is not 4-methylpiperizin-1-ylsulfonyl.

23. (New) A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (IXA) or (IXB):

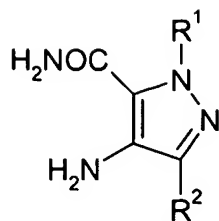


(IXA)

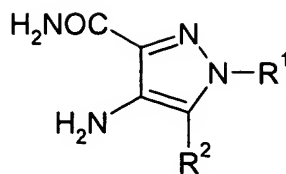


(IXB)

comprising reacting a compound of formula (XA) or (XB) respectively

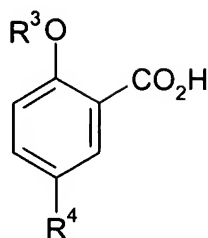


(XA)



(XB)

with a compound of formula (XI)



(XI)

wherein

R^1 is C_1 to C_3 alkyl substituted with C_3 to C_6 cycloalkyl, $CONR^5R^6$ or a N-linked heterocyclic group selected from pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, triazolyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl and 4- R^9 -piperazinyl; $(CH_2)_n$ Het or $(CH_2)_n$ Ar;

R^2 is C_1 to C_6 alkyl;

R^3 is C_1 to C_6 alkyl optionally substituted with C_1 - C_4 alkoxy;

R^4 is $SO_2NR^7R^8$;

R^5 and R^6 are each independently selected from H and C_1 to C_4 alkyl optionally substituted with C_1 to C_4 alkoxy, or, together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form a pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl or 4- R^9 -piperazinyl group;

R^7 and R^8 , together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, form a 4- R^{10} -piperazinyl group;

R^9 is C_1 to C_4 alkyl;

R^{10} is H or C_1 to C_4 alkyl optionally substituted with OH, C_1 to C_4 alkoxy or $CONH_2$;

Het is a C-linked 6-membered heterocyclic group containing

one or two nitrogen atoms as the only heteroatoms therein, optionally in the form of its mono-N-oxide, or a C-linked 5-membered heterocyclic group containing from one to four heteroatoms selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur, wherein either of said heterocyclic groups is optionally substituted with one or two substituents selected from C₁ to C₄ alkyl optionally substituted with C₁ to C₄ alkoxy, C₁ to C₄ alkoxy, halo and NH₂;

Ar is phenyl optionally substituted with one or two substituents selected from C₁ to C₄ alkyl, C₁ to C₄ alkoxy, halo, CN, CONH₂, NO₂, NH₂, NHSO₂ (C₁ to C₄ alkyl) and SO₂NH₂;

and n is 0 or 1.